

Message Text

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S E C R E T GENEVA 4626

EXDIS

GENEVA ENMOD MESSAGE NO. 3

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3 (IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE)

TAGS: PARM, CCD, UN, US, UR

SUBJECT: ENMOD: APPRAISAL OF SITUATION

1. FEDOROV HAS INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO INCLUDE PHRASE "WIDESPREAD, LONG-LASTING OR SEVERE EFFECTS" -- DERIVED FROM JULY 3, 1974 SUMMIT STATEMENT -- IN TEXT OF ARTICLE I IN A JOINT OR BRACKETED DRAFT TREATY. HE HAS NOT YET PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR A REVISION OF THIS ARTICLE, AND IN THE ABSENCE OF A SPECIFIC TEXT IT IS NOT YET CLEAR HE IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT A TREATY BASED ON CONCEPT OF NSDM 277. MOREOVER, HE HAS SHOWN NO INDICATION OF MOVEMENT ON THE SOVIET DEMAND TO BAN MILITARY R&D. WHILE FEDOROV MAY BE AT THE POINT OF MAKING AN IMPORTANT MOVE, WE CANNOT YET JUDGE WHETHER OR NOT HE WILL COME THROUGH WITH ANY MAJOR CHANGE IN THE SOVIET POSITION.

2. WE HAVE INFORMED SOVIET DELEGATION OF US EXPECTATION TO TALBE TEXT OF US DRAFT TREATY EARLY IN CCD, WHILE STRESSING THAT WE NEVERTHELESS DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO NARROW DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE US AND SOVIET APPROACHES TO LIMITING ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES WITH A VIEW TO REACHING AGREEMENT EVENTUALLY ON A JOINT APPROACH THAT COULD PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR A MULTILATERALLY

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AGREED TREATY IN THE CCD.

3. SOVIET DELEGATION APPEARS ANXIOUS TO AVOID TABLING OF SEPARATE US TEXT IN CCD AND TO DESIRE EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF JOINT TEXT THAT COULD BE UTILIZED IN WHATEVER MANNER RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS DECIDE. WE ARE SEEKING TO CAPITALIZE ON APPARENT SOVIET INTEREST IN DEVELOPING JOINT TEXT TO DETERMINE LIMITS OF SOVIET FLEXIBILITY AND PRICE THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO PAY TO SUBSTITUTE JOINT INITIATIVE FOR US INITIATIVE.

4. TO THIS END WE PROPOSE IN NEXT FEW DAYS TO PURSUE ESSENTIALLY TWO-TRACK TACTICAL APPROACH IN DISCUSSIONS HERE. FIRST: TO EXPLAIN AND DEFEND US DRAFT TEXT AND ASSURE THAT NO FALSE EXPECTATIONS ARE CREATED IN SOVIET MIND EITHER THAT CHANGES IN TEXT WILL BE MADE OR THAT TABLING OF SEPARATE US TEXT IN CCD WILL BE DEFERRED. SECOND: TO ASCERTAIN BY JOINT EXPLORATIONS AT DELEGATION LEVEL HOW NEARLY SOVIETS MIGHT BE LED TO APPROACH US POSITION IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THEIR APPARENT OBJECTIVE OF EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF JOINT TEXT. TO GIVE PRECISION TO THIS EFFORT WE EXPECT TO SEEK TO DEVELOP IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS HYPOTHETICAL DRAFT BRACKETED TEXT TO DEFINE ISSUES. IF THIS EFFORT IS SUCCESSFUL, BRACKETED TEXT WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO WASHINGTON IN NEXT FEW DAYS AS A BASIS FOR WASHINGTON DECISION WHETHER TO PURSUE FURTHER BILATERAL EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT AND NARROW DIFFERENCES PRIOR TO TABLING OF US TEXT IN CCD.

5. DAVIES IS SEEING FEDOROV THIS EVENING AND ON THE BASIS OF THAT CONVERSATION AND THE JUNE 19 PLENARY, WE WILL TRANSMIT ANOTHER ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION AND THE DELEGATION'S RECOMMENDATIONS. DALE

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